

Our Ref :

Date : 04 October 2019

HEAD TEACHER: LOUISE A MAHER

Dear Parent / Carer,

October 2019 – Newsletter

Well what a buzz there has been about our Cash for Kids Challenge. Huge thanks to the Parent Council members who have given so much of their time to drive and support this project. There have been many events including; bag packing in Morrison's, donation collections at B&Q and our PJ Day. Still to come a ladies night, teachers jumping out of aeroplanes, Freya getting her haircut and a crazy hair day. PLEASE GET INVOLVED AS MUCH AS YOU CAN AND SHOW YOUR SUPPORT. This will not only benefit our own school community but also many children across Renfrewshire. As well as raising money, these events are also encouraging the community to come together. Thanks again to the parents who are working tirelessly on this challenge. COME ON ST PAUL'S WE CAN DO THIS!

Share on social media - #CFKSCHOOLSCHALLENCE #clydecashforkids #clyde1 #stpaulsprimary @Clydecashforkids @Clyde1

Here is the link to our fundraising page.

<https://www.cashforkidsgive.co.uk/campaign/radio-clyde-schools-challenge-2019/fundraisers/st-paul-s-primary-school-pta/>

Celebration Mass

Primary 7 did themselves proud when we went to the Cathedral to celebrate mass in the presence of the Relics of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux. The children sang well and behaved respectfully throughout the mass, demonstrating to others the value of their faith and recognising the importance of the event.

Parish News

There will soon be a meeting for parents of children in P4 and P7 who wish to present their children to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation. Please make a special effort to attend this meeting in order to ask any questions you might have about sacramental preparation. A separate letter with details will be issued

School Improvement Plan

You will recall at the last parents' evening we had display boards asking for your views on how we can improve the work of the school. We have also discussed this with the children and staff and our Improvement Plan for this session is complete. We have produced a Standards and Quality Report, which can be accessed via the school website later this month. This outlines the successes of the school over the last session and our priorities for the year ahead. If you would like a copy of the improvement plan, please ask at the school office.

Reporting Absence and Latecoming

You will all have received the general letter on school absence. I hope this has helped you to appreciate the importance of children coming to school. Please remember to call the school **before 9.30am** if your child is going to absent. If we do not have a reason for the absence and we cannot get in touch with you, because of out of date contact details, we have to report your child as missing and refer to the authorities. Please ensure any changes of contact details are given to the school ASAP. Please ensure children arrive prior to the school bell to ensure a positive start to the day. I will be issuing attendance letters over the next few weeks to those who have dropped below 95%. If you require any support with attendance, please contact me.

Holidays during Term time

I know family holidays can be expensive but I urge you to try to avoid taking children on holiday during term time, especially at the start of the session. We are only weeks into the term and already a number of days have been lost because of holidays. Please note when children are on holiday during term time they will miss valuable learning and at the start of term they miss all the routines of their new class.

School Lunches

We have been lucky with the weather and children have continued to opt to eat their lunch outside. Now that we are lucky enough to have lots of shelter in the playground, the children will continue to be given the option to eat their packed lunch outside if they wish. As you know, the school lunch menu changed in August. Children continue to choose from 2 options each day and should get the menu choice they have requested.

Parent Pay

We will soon be introducing Parent Pay. (You may have heard of other schools already doing this as it is being implemented in a phased approach). Given the option, most parents/carers will probably prefer to pay online at a time that suits them. With Parent Pay, you do not need to queue up at the school office with cash or expect your child to carry envelopes to school with consent forms and money. All of this will be possible on line. More information to follow.

School Clothing

Please make sure all children come to school with a suitable outdoor jacket. With our new fantastic outdoor facilities, we will be taking advantage with many more outdoor learning opportunities. As we, all know the weather can be very changeable so please ensure waterproof jackets and suitable footwear every day. Lost property continues to be an increasing issue. We have around 20 jumpers in the infants alone. Please remember to put names on all items of clothing so it can be easily identified if it goes missing. If there is an accident and your child receives a change of clothes please wash and return them as soon as possible to allow them to be used for others. We are very short of clothing age 5-7yrs. Any donations would be appreciated. Please check lost property at Parents' Evening. Whatever is left will go to the parent council.

Wet Weather

With the design of our building having many sheltered areas we will ensure the children are outdoors for fresh air as much as possible. This may mean they are outdoors in light rain. They can shelter from the rain but benefit from the fresh air. Please remind them to make use of the shelters on wet days. In the mornings, P1 and 2 should come into the school while P3-7 should take cover under the shelters.

Flu Vaccines

You will now have received your consent form for your child to receive the Flu Vaccine via a nasal spray. These will take place on Monday 21st October. If you have not returned the consent or your child is absent, you must take them to the GP surgery to receive the vaccine.

Whole School Pantomime

Once again, we have booked a whole school pantomime. After the success of last year, we have booked the King's Theatre again this year. Details to follow, but just in case you were planning on a family panto you may want to choose a different one. This trip will mean a late return to school as the performance is at 1pm meaning we will therefore not be back at school until after 4pm. Details will follow.

The cost is approx. £17 per head. However, we are hoping with fundraising we can reduce the payment to yourselves.

Class Newsletter

We hope you found the Class Newsletter informative and provided you with relevant information about topics and what your child will be learning. Ideas of how you can support your children are also included. The next class newsletter will be issued in January.

Parents' Evening

You will now have received your slip asking for your preferred option. Actual appointment times will be issued today. It is important that all parents/carers attend these meetings, as it is an opportunity for you to discuss 1-1 with the class teacher your child's strengths and areas where you can help them. As usual, class teachers will be happy to offer resources, ideas, and any support they can. Tea/Coffee will be available with Mrs Gavin looking for some company. Lost property will also be available.

Pizza Reading

Adult Literacy Services are once again delivering pizza reading with Primary one families. This opportunity will give parents tips on how to support their child with reading. We have had a positive start, great to see so many families. Soon families from primary 2 and 3 will be able to get involved too. Look out for further information later in the year.

October - Month of Mary

During the month of October, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Rosary. Children will have the chance to say a decade of the Rosary every morning at 8.45am led by Mrs Gavin. Children should come into the studio via the main door if they would like to take part. Please bring Rosary beads with you if you have them. Parents and carers are welcome to come along too.

Community Involvement Committee

The Community Involvement committee are going to be hosting a bake sale on Thursday 10th October at morning break to raise money for Cash for Kids. Any donations of home baking, cakes etc. would be greatly appreciated. Otherwise, please send in a small donation for our fundraising efforts.

European Day of Languages

European Day of Languages on Thursday 26th of September was a great success. The children enjoyed being able to sample foods from different countries, learn styles of dance from different cultures and learn from their peers. We enjoyed learning about different countries and languages from our classmates. A huge tank you to any families who contributed any food or baking to help make the day so successful.

School Side Gate

As of 21st October, the gate at the steps next to the main entrance will be locked at 9.15am and re-opened at 2.45pm. Reason is for pupil safety.

Dates for the Diary

DATE	EVENT
1/10/19	Pizza Reading P1
2/10/19	Parent Council Meeting 6pm in the school
4/10/19	Ladies Night in Church Hall for Cash for Kids – tickets can be purchased at door
7/10/19	Freya Hair Cut Live in the Gym hall (Cash for Kids) Silly Billy Show P1-3 3pm-4pm (Cash for Kids) please come along & support this £2 per child Adults Free
8/10/19	Silly Billy Show P4-7 3pm-4pm (Cash for Kids)please come along & support this £2 per child Adults Free Pizza Reading P1
10/10/19	Crazy Hair Day for Cash for Kids PARENTS' EVENING 3.15 – 9.00 FINAL DAY OF FUNDRAISING FOR CASH FOR KIDS
11/10/19	School closed for In-service Day
14-18/10/19	School October Break
21/10/19	SCHOOL REPOENS 9AM St Andrew's S4 work experience in this week FLU VACCINATIONS
22/10/19	Pizza Reading P1
24/10/19	Anchor Ahoy! Coffee Evening @ 6pm
25/10/19	Golden Tea Party – value of showing sharing talents
29/10/19	Halloween Disco in the school – organised by Parent Council Pizza Reading P1
5/11/19	Pizza Reading P1
5/11/19	Meeting for P4 & P7 parents in Church Hall @ 7pm Sacramental Prep
6/11/19	Parent Council Meeting in the school @6pm
12/11/19	Pizza Reading P1
16/11/19	Start of Catholic Education Week
19/11/19	Pizza Reading P1
22/11/19	Golden Tea Party – value of passionate
23/11/19	School leading the liturgy at Sunday Mass for Catholic Education Week
25/11/19	Fluoride Varnishing P1-4

Director of Children's Services: Steven Quinn
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26/11/19	Pizza Reading P1
29/11/19	St Andrew's Day Mass – P7
2/12/19	HOLIDAY for St Andrew's Day
4/12/19	Parent Council Meeting in school 6pm
5/12/19	Whole School Pantomime – King's Theatre more info to follow
6/12/19	School Christmas Fayre
11& 12/12/19	Nativity
18/12/19	School Christmas Dinner
19/12/19	Christmas Parties
20/12/19	Golden Tea Party – value of ambitious STOP FOR CHRISTMAS BREAK
6/1/20	School re-opens at 9am

Louise A Maher Yours sincerely

Louise A Maher
Head Teacher